

Application No. 09/982,436
Amendment dated December 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 15, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended). A low basis weight nonwoven fabric, comprising:

a web of hydroentangled 0.2 to 3.0 denier substantially continuous polymeric filaments formed from a relatively lightly bonded, spunbond precursor web, said substantially continuous filaments being arranged in a substantially uniform array on a hydroentangling device, having a foraminous forming surface, and hydroentangled so that bonds between said filaments are broken without ~~substantially breaking substantial breakage of~~ said filaments and so that the filaments are entangled with each other;

said fabric having a basis weight from about 10 to about 30 grams per square meter, and a cross-direction tensile strength of at least about 827 grams per centimeter.

Claim 10. (canceled).

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Claim 11 (original). A low basis weight nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

said filaments comprise spunbond polyester filaments having about 1.5 denier.

Claim 12 (previously presented). A low basis weight nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

said web of hydroentangled polymeric filament is formed from a spunbond precursor web which is bonded to have no more than a minimum tensile strength which permits winding and unwinding of said precursor webs.